

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 815

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of John Fred Tarkington, Jr., of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened and deeply moved to learn of the passing of Mr. John Fred Tarkington, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, John Tarkington was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a Nashville native, Mr. Tarkington attended Hillsboro High School and graduated from Duncan and Vanderbilt University, where he was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity; and

WHEREAS, during the Korean War, John Tarkington bravely answered the call of duty and valiantly served his country as a Captain in the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, Mr. Tarkington began working at Davis Cabinet and was assigned to the New York/Philadelphia territory, in which position he was the company's leading salesman for ten years, earning the respect of his peers, clients, and superiors alike for his exemplary sales record; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarkington went on to establish his own companies, founding and serving as the Chief Executive Office of Bradford Showroom Memphis, Tarkington Showroom, and Mister T's Patio in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, Mr. Tarkington was the quintessential "pillar of the community;" he was an alumnus of Leadership Nashville and a distinguished past member of the Rotary Club of Memphis, The Reform Club of London, England, and the Memphis Country Club and expertly served on the boards of the National Management Services, Nashville Chamber of Commerce, First Tennessee Bank, and the Better Business Bureau. At the time of

his death, he held active memberships in the Downtown Rotary, the Belle Meade Country Club, and the University Club, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarkington was an exemplary and dedicated community leader who cared deeply for his hometown, serving as Chairman of the Board of Nashville Electric Service and President of the Boards of the American Red Cross and the Boys and Girls Club of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, John Tarkington was an active and devout member of First Presbyterian Church in Nashville, which he served faithfully for many years as an elder; he also displayed his deep Christian beliefs as a deacon at New York's Brick Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarkington was preceded in death by his parents, John Fred Tarkington, Sr., and Frances Myers Tarkington; and

WHEREAS, John Tarkington enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of forty-seven years, Jane Anderson Tarkington, and he was the proud father of Jane McFerrin Tarkington Mavar and her husband Geoffrey and Leslie Lipscomb Tarkington and her husband Rob; and

WHEREAS, he was also the doting grandfather of Cannon G. McCullough, Wilson M. McCullough, R. Zackary McCullough, and Ian T. McCullough and will be sorely missed by his brother, Ray E. Tarkington, his nephew, Eddie Tarkington, and his niece, Glenda T. Bowles and

WHEREAS, John Fred Tarkington, Jr., leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity; and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. John Fred Tarkington, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our sincerest condolences to the family of Mr. Tarkington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.